

Telephone call made to Dr. Visscher on April 29, 1966, following notification from the New York State Society for Medical Research that the modified Poage Bill had been passed yesterday by the House of Representatives.

Dr. Visscher: I know this is going to make some of our scientific people awfully sore because it has the implication that it is in the laboratories that the feuding has been going on. But if the feuding continues to go on and they don't find them in the laboratories we're going to gain by it. We've already gained a great deal in having acquired a great deal of additional respect on the part of the Congressmen.

Dr. Dennis: I thought so. This is good.

Dr. Visscher: The Congress is not going to listen to the Christine Stevenses so attentively in the future. I'm sure of it.

Dr. Dennis: Give me the name of the newest Poage Bill once again. I didn't write it down.

Dr. Visscher: 13881 and ask not only for the Bill but for the Committee Report.

Dr. Dennis: OK. This I will do.

Dr. Visscher: Because this is excellently essential. You can't understand the Bill without the Committee Report.

Dr. Dennis: The Committee Report has the force of law if it goes to court.

Dr. Visscher: That's right.

Dr. Dennis: Well that's superb. I'm delighted.

Dr. Visscher: Well, I'll tell you. We would have, of course, preferred no bill, but, that is on certain grounds.

Dr. Dennis: Well this will pull their teeth for the future for some time, won't it?

Dr. Visscher: This is the point. There are many of these Congressmen who have said to us already that we're not going to have another one of these bills dealing with animal experimentation bother us in the Congress for the next four years. We're through. We'll see what this does. I think we're going to get a lot of sympathy out of it.

Dr. Dennis: Well that's good. I don't know if I told you that I have to give this presidential address for the Vascular Surgery Society and I thought I'd have the bulk of it on this, because these people should have been in a position to give us a great deal more help than they have.

Dr. Visscher: I was just at the point, when your telephone call came in, of trying to get hold of Mike DeBakey. How well do you know Mike?

Dr. Dennis: Well enough to know that he can be absolutely ruthless in getting what he personally wants.

Dr. Visscher: Will he do anything for us on the score of saying something now?

Dr. Dennis: I think he might if he thought it would do him personally some good. It has to be lined up that way.

Dr. Visscher: That's terrible.

Dr. Dennis: It is terrible, but I honestly think that's the situation.

Dr. Visscher: Well, you know, I sort of smelled this because the truth is I tried to get him to do something about a month ago and he had all kinds of excuses.

Dr. Dennis: Well I've approached him too.

Dr. Visscher: Who would be the best person to get him to make a public statement now?

Dr. Dennis: Alton Ochsner.

Dr. Visscher: I think I'll call Alton.

Dr. Dennis: That might do. With regard to Senator Magnuson, I will call my friend Joel Baker out there who plays golf with him and suggest to him that he put his bill in with the introductory clauses only and all the rest of the bill converted to the Poage Bill that's now been approved by the House of Representatives.

Dr. Visscher: Do that. That would be wonderful.

Dr. Dennis: That I will do.

Dr. Visscher: OK. Thanks Clarence.